Exploitation of dock labour by contractors

495. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale monopolisation of stevedoring trade by a small number of contractors, exploitation of dock labour by these contractors and other restrictive practices indulged in by them at different ports have come to Government's notice; and

(b) if so, what remedial measures are being taken by Government to break the monopoly of contractors and to prevent exploitation of the labour by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The number of stevedores at Ports have generally remained static in recent years. In order to inclucate healthy competition, Government has decided that the issue of stevedoring licences should be liberalised and the procedure for it stremlined and simplified.

Import of substandard vaccines for treatment of Measles

496. SHRI GHAN SHYAM SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no arrangement of Test for number if vaccines, being imported in the country;

(b) if so, what are the names of those vaccines;

(c) whether it is also a fact that most of consignments being imported of Measles vaccine are of sub-standard quality;

(d) what is the total number of consignment of measles vaccines being imported in the country and how many were released for sale after test;

(e) whether it is a fact that certain children dies due to measles injections;

(f) if so, what is the total number of cases came to the notice the Government during 1987;

(g) whether it is also a fact that most of other vaccines such as Triple vaccine, quardiple vaccine and polio vaccine are of very poor quality; and

(h) if so, what is the total number of samples tested of these vaccine during last three years, year-wise and what was the detailed report of each test?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Most of the Vaccines imported into the country are subjected to test. Testing facilities for Measles Mumps and Rubella (MMR) Vaccine, Hepatitis Vaccine and Meningococcal Vaccine are being developed by the Central Research Institute, Kasauli.

(c) It is not a fact that the Measles Vaccine imported into India is not of standard quality.

(d) 46 consignments including 12 gift consignments of Measles Vaccine were imported into India during the last 2 years viz. 1985-86 and 1986-87. 16 samples were tested and all were found to be of standard quality.

(e) Yes, Sir, it is a fact that certain children developed reactions leading to death when measles vaccine was administrated to them. The investigation to find the cause of death are going on and no conclusive result has been obtained.

(f) During 1987, 10 deaths of children in four separate incidents have been reported. Two died in Kurnool, (Andhra